

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Applicants: Ronald A. MODESTO; Robert WOJCZAK; Scott KRUPP;
Yvonne LUZNEY and Daniel LAPPI

Application No. 09/652,197

Examiner: Tung S. LAU

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End
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the part and further wherein the upper die includes a knocker that contacts the forming rail to form the critical dimension of the part.

REMARKS:

Claims 1-31 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-31 stand rejected.

In Paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-31 under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-32 of co-pending application number 09/652,236 in view of Narushima, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,516).

The Applicants respectfully traverse the provisional rejection of the claims, since Narushima, et al. discloses neither a rail nor servo control.

In Paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroyone (U.S. Patent No. 5,464,424) in view of Takahashi (U.S. Patent No. 5,299,351), Koseko, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,693,871) and Narushima, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,516).

The applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of the claims. None of Kuroyone, Takahashi, Koseko, et al., and Narushima, et al. disclose or suggest a forming rail coupled to a servo wherein the press controller adjusts the servo based on the measurement from the sensor of the critical dimension of the part and further wherein the upper die includes a knocker that contacts the forming rail to form the critical dimension of the part.

First, rail 214 is not a forming rail coupled to a servo, as the independent claims require. Furthermore, no knocker on the upper die contacts rail 214 as the independent claims require.

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Regarding Claims 6-10, and parallel Claims 17-21 and 27-31, none of the references teach multiple measurement signals during different portions a machine cycle. None of the references teach the determination of an average signal. None of the references teach comparing the average signal to a threshold signal. None of the references teach generating a first measurement signal between 130 and 150 degrees and a second measurement signal between 180 and 360 degrees.

Based on the above analysis, it is the belief of the undersigned that the claims now before the Patent Office patentably distinguish the invention from what is disclosed in or suggested by all references heretofore cited and made of record.

Moreover, as all outstanding issues have been addressed and the application now appears to be in condition for allowance, favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested, and prompt allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

If, on the other hand, the examiner believes that anything further is still necessary to place this patent application in condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any extension or additional fees associated with this or any other communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-1080.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 5-4-02

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Version With Markings To Show Changes

Wherein square-bracketed [] text is deleted and **underlined** text is added as follows:

- 1 1. (Amended) A part measurement system comprising:
2 a press machine including a lower die coupled to an upper die, wherein the
3 lower die includes a top surface supporting a strip of material to be formed into a part
4 after a stripper plate coupled to the upper die contacts the strip of material;
5 a part measurement sensor located in the lower die, wherein the sensor
6 measures a critical dimension of the part while the part is in the lower die;
7 a part forming rail coupled to the lower die, wherein the forming rail and
8 the upper die form the critical dimension of the part; and
9 a press controller coupled to the press machine and the sensor, wherein the
10 controller processes a measurement signal from the part measurement sensor of the
11 critical dimension of the part, compares the measurement signal to a predetermined
12 threshold value, and generates a command signal to the press machine to adjust the
13 forming rail based on the measurement signal;
14 **wherein the forming rail is coupled to a servo and the press controller**
15 **adjusts the servo based on the measurement from the sensor of the critical**
16 **dimension of the part and further wherein the upper die includes a knocker that**
17 **contacts the forming rail to form the critical dimension of the part.**

- 1 11. (Amended) A part measurement system comprising:
2 a press machine including a lower die coupled to an upper die, wherein the
3 lower die includes a top surface supporting a strip of material to be formed into a part
4 after a stripper plate coupled to the upper die contacts the strip of material;

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- 14 machine; and
- 15 adjusting a forming rail coupled to the lower die based on the command
- 16 signal from the press controller;
- 17 wherein the forming rail is coupled to a servo and the press controller
- 18 adjusts the servo based on the measurement from the sensor of the critical
- 19 dimension of the part and further wherein the upper die includes a knocker that
- 20 contacts the forming rail to form the critical dimension of the part.